



**TO:** Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services  
Brian Boudet, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Ordinance – Retaining and Modifying the Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations and Extending the Duration for Six Months – October 10, 2017  
**DATE:** September 25, 2017

**SUMMARY:**

Retaining and modifying the Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations as enacted pursuant to Ordinance No. 28432, adopted on June 6, 2017; authorizing certain implementation measures pertaining to TMC 13.06.635.B.4, concerning Temporary Homeless Camps; and extending the duration of the interim regulations for six months, effective through April 16, 2018.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

The Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations support the following strategic policy priorities:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.

**BACKGROUND:**

On May 2, 2017, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 39716, directing the City Manager to prepare an Emergency Temporary Aid and Shelter Program and an ordinance declaring a state of emergency, in response to the current homelessness crisis. On May 9, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28430, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency, effective through October 9, 2017. On May 9, 2017, the City Manager developed the 3-phase Emergency Aid and Sheltering Program and immediately began the implementation of the program. On June 6, 2017, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 28432, enacting interim zoning and land use controls as an emergency measure, effective through November 14, 2017, to permit the City to site temporary emergency shelters in response to the declared public emergency. While the 3-phase Emergency Aid and Sheltering Program has been effective, the homelessness crisis continues to exist, and in response, the City Council has determined that the State of Public Health Emergency shall be sustained. The City Council also recognizes the need to modify and renew the interim regulations prior to their expiration on November 14, 2017, to enable the continued operation of the current stability site, as well as to allow faith-based organizations and non-profits to host temporary homeless camps, as substantially outlined in the Tacoma Municipal Code, Section 13.06.635.B.4. The proposed modifications and six-month extension of the interim regulations are as set forth in Exhibit “A” and are also applicable to certain provisions as set forth in TMC 13.06.635.B.4 concerning Temporary Homeless Camps. The City Council is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on October 10, 2017, pursuant to TMC 13.02, on the proposal.

**ISSUE:**

These interim regulations as modified are an important element of the City Manager’s 3-phase Emergency Aid and Sheltering Program to address homelessness. With the inclusion of faith-based organizations and non-profits, members of the community will be able to support additional people as means and methods to combat this epidemic are developed.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council could choose not to accept modifications to the interim regulations and/or allow the interim regulations to lapse. However, upon the expiration of the interim regulations and before



permanent regulations are in place, the stability site would be out of compliance with law and subject to legal challenge. Additionally, choosing to not accept the modifications does not encourage other community actors to participate in solutions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Council is recommended to adopt an ordinance to modify and extend for six months the Emergency Temporary Shelters Interim Regulations.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.